(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

Repair of railway bridges

2472. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old railway bridges which need repair in 2002-2003;

(b) the estimated expenditure for the above purpose;

(c) the funds available so far in Railway Safety Fund; and

(d) the funds utilised, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) Age is not the criteria for deciding the bridge repair and rehabilitation programme. On Indian Railways bridges are rehabilitated/re-built on the basis of the physical condition as assessed from annual inspections. Bridge rehabilitation/rebuilding is carried out from (i) Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) and (ii) Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF). Rs. 1530 crores have been allocated for bridge rehabilitation/ rebuilding out of SRSF for period of five years. For the year 2002-03 Rs. 143 crore out of SRSF and Rs. 66 crores out of DRF have been allocated, out of which an amount of Rs. 82.3 crores (Rs. 63.54 crores out of SRSF and Rs. 18.75 crores out of DRF) have been spent upto 30.9.2002.

Discontinuation of Bhopal-Jodhpur passenger train

†2473. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to discontinuation of Bhopal-Jodhpur passenger train *via* Gulabganj, the people of this area are facing problems;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether the Railways are considering to make a provision for alternative arrangements, for the convenience of passenger of this area; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) 491/492 Bhopal-Jodhpur Passenger is temporarily cancelled from 1.11.2002 due to operational requirements. Provision of alternative facility is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints. For the convenience of passengers, stoppage of 1057/1058 Dadar-Amritsar Express at Gulabganj is being provided *w.e.f.* 15.12.2002.

Enquiry Committees for rail accidents

2474. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that enquiry Committees, appointed to conduct enquiry about rail accidents, take long time to submit their reports;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the unwanted delay in submitting their reports;

(c) the steps taken by Government after getting the reports; and

(d) the details of enquiry Committees appointed for enquiry of rail accidents and their reports, from 1998 to 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) No, Sir, However, Judicial Commissions are appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952. Detailed Reports are submitted by the Commissions after inquiry. Recommendations are examined and, wherever feasible, are implemented.

(d) Three Commissions of Inquiry have been appointed during the period from 1998 to 2002. These are as under:-

(i) *Justice G.C. Garg Commission of Inquiry*

This Commission was appointed in March, 1999, to inquire into the Collision between derailed coaches of 2903 Up Golden Temple Mail and